

Timberline Dedication

February 4, 2004

Address By Principal Terry Hill

Parents, students, educators, friends to Timberline Middle School, I would like to welcome you this evening. I appreciate you taking out of your busy schedules to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Before I make my remarks, Steve Crane of VCBO Architecture has asked to take a few moments.

As I begin my comments, I'd like to express appreciation to all who have made this beautiful building possible: Alpine School District Board of Education, VCBO Architects, Hogan Construction, Alpine School District Administration, Maintenance Administration and Staff and Timberline Faculty and Staff members. There are too many names to mention individually, but each has played an important part in the modeling of this wonderful education facility. Thank you.

ASD Board of Education

JoDee Sundberg

Keith Swain

Donna Barnes

Jim Evans

Andrea Forsyth

Christine Hannemann

Guy Fugal

VCBO

Steve Crane

Vern Latham

Hogan Construction

Dwight Packard

Gaylen Fawson

ASD

John Childs

Dave Holdaway

Kraig Sweat

I would like to share with you a little bit about the history of education in Alpine and the North Highland area.

Throughout my remarks I will be quoting from a book entitled *Alpine Yesterdays*, by Jennie Adams Wild. "At the settlement of Mountainville, which is the original name of Alpine, in 1850, the people's first thoughts were turned to the building of shelters, protecting themselves from the Indians, and wresting a living from a new and entirely different area. Then they felt the need for education and decided to do something about it".

Work on the **first** school “house” in Alpine began on December 3, 1851 and was completed on January 1, 1852. Not quite a month. This building was located just a bit south of the southernmost fence on Cemetery Hill.

In 1854, the schoolhouse was moved to the west side of Main Street, approximately 121 North Main.

“All grades were taught in one room and at first by one teacher.” There were three classes, the chart class, then the primer, then the readers, instead of being referred to as grades. Most pupils made it as far as the “Third Readers”.

In November of 1884 it was determined that the increase of population made it necessary to move into a larger building. Arrangements were made to use city hall until a suitable building could be built. The school rented the building for fifty cents a week, with the provision the school would keep it clean and put in a suitable stove, the cost of which would apply to the rent.

By the mid 1890's, students were being taught up through the 7th grade. Mr. Joseph Wilford Booth, a native of Alpine, who had attended the B.Y.U. Academy, taught the thirty five students in grades four through seven, who attended school in the Alpine City Hall, for thirty five dollars a month.

(Red Brick Schoolhouse) In the spring of 1899, work on the “red brick schoolhouse” was commenced on the south tip of Cemetery Hill. The building was two story, 30’ x 60’, constructed of light red-brick resting on a granite block foundation. It contained four large rooms, two on the ground floor and two upstairs. The school was completed in 1901 at a cost of \$3,789.12.

(Old American Fork High School) In about 1911, five students attended high school at American Fork High. The mode of transportation for the first students who commuted the six miles regularly to the American Fork High School was rather unique. Don C. Strong, Sr., fixed up a sheep camp wagon with a good team of horses in which the five students traveled to school each day. In 1919, the first motorized school bus took over. It was a G.M.C. panel truck with wire sides and curtains to pull down in bad weather and winter time.

(Red Brick Schoolhouse w/ Gym addition) In 1924, a gymnasium, added to the grounds right next to the “red schoolhouse,” was completed. “On July 3, 1924, the Alpine Gym was valued at \$14,000.00, plus \$50.00 for the site.” When finished, it being the only recreation building in town, the school board decided to set a rental fee for public use. It was agreed to charge \$4.00 per night, plus a janitor fee of \$2.00 for public dances and public plays.

In 1936, the Alpine City Council decided to bus the seventh and eighth grades to American Fork. **(Old American Fork Junior)** This made more room in the Alpine building and gave those two grades the advantages of a junior high school.

(Harrington) In 1958 the sixth grade was taken to American Fork where they attended school in the old Harrington building. In 1961 the fifth grade traveled to American Fork and attended there as well.

In 1962, the school board decided the old red school house was obsolete and rather than go to the expense of building a new one, all the Alpine students should be distributed between the American Fork and Pleasant Grove schools, which were already overloaded. This idea was overturned and construction was started on the building located at Fourth East between Second and Third North. **(Alpine Elementary)** This is the Alpine Elementary building we know today. It was completed in 1965. It was all built on ground level with the latest modern conveniences such as a kitchen, lunch room, stage, library, and large office. There was enough room in the new building that the fifth and sixth grades were returned to Alpine to attend **(Highland Elementary)** Alpine and Highland Elementary.

(Current American Fork High) In 1959, work on American Fork High School was completed and the tenth through twelfth grade students from Alpine began attending there. The seventh and eighth grade students continued to attend school in American Fork and in 1975, **(Current American Fork Junior)** the existing American Fork Junior High was complete. These young people attended American Fork Junior High until 1993. The students from Highland and Alpine were located in the trailers, on the west end of the American Fork Junior High campus until January of 1994, **(Mountain Ridge Jr. High)** then began the exodus to Mountain Ridge Junior High.

(Lone Peak High) In 1997, American Fork High School was split and Lone Peak High School came into existence. **(Westfield Elementary)** Then in the year 2000, construction on Westfield Elementary was completed and the second elementary school in Alpine came to be.

(Scraped land for Timberline) On Tuesday, March 26, 2002, the ground breaking for, what was then known as Alpine Junior High, was held. As a part of the ground breaking program, those who attended, wrote their names on a rock and placed it in the bucket of a front end loader. The rocks were then added to the cement that was poured into the footings of Timberline Middle School.

(Pictures of Timberline construction) We've all watched the process of construction with anticipation. The naming of the school, the selection of school colors and mascot and the expectation of being able to move in have all been a part of a very exciting process.

We are blessed to be a part of a community that recognizes the importance of education. We have bright, eager, energetic students, active parental support and involvement, a strong faculty and staff with the desire to obtain and provide the best education possible. A winning combination.

The mission statement for Timberline Middle School, found in your program, capsulizes our commitment to provide the highest quality education possible for each student who enters our doors.

(Timberline Middle School) This year we've had the opportunity to plant the seeds that will establish traditions of excellence for Timberline Middle School.

It is my hope that as a community, parents, students and educators, we will all combine our efforts to accomplish this great cause, as has been the case throughout the history of education in Alpine.

Thank you very much.